

Item and subject matter	Document
15. Other business 16. Adoption of Report	

[FR Doc. 95-12570 Filed 5-22-95; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410-DM-M

Forest Service

Coconino National Forest, Arizona; Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Pocket/Baker Ecosystem

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: The Long Valley Ranger District of the Coconino National Forest is planning to prepare an environmental impact statement on a proposal to manage lands within the Pocket/Baker Ecosystem. Some of the projects to be considered include thinning the understory in ponderosa pine stands to reduce the high levels of dwarf mistletoe infection; prescribing controlled fire for the reduction of forest fuels, nutrient cycling, and stimulation of fire dependent grasses and forbes; reconfiguring the grazing patterns of cattle to improve the range vegetation and the watershed condition; thinning of trees along state highways 87 and 260 to feature the more prominent large trees and for the reduction of shade that causes ice hazards on the roadway; reducing the use and/or improving the dispersed recreation sites for sustainable future use; reversing the declining health and vigor of remnant quaking aspen stands; restoring and protecting historic drainage structures; and closing and/or rehabilitating roads located within stream courses or their associated filter strips.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: The District Ranger, Bruce C. Greco, will be the responsible official and will select one of the alternatives presented in the environmental impact statement.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bruce Greco, Long Valley District Ranger or John Gerritsma, Planning Team Leader at (602) 354-2216.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Analysis work began on the Pocket portion of the Pocket/Baker 20K in 1991. In 1993 the scope of the project was broadened to include the Baker portion to create a more logical ecosystem for analysis. The interdisciplinary planning team followed a formal NEPA evaluation process with active, detailed scoping and involvement for a wide range of interests. Because of the complexity and

diversity of this ecosystem, and the potential significance of several resource issues, we are evaluating completion of the analysis through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The issues include:

(1) Sustaining vegetative conditions for threatened, endangered, and sensitive species (TE&S). Many of the ponderosa pine sites are heavily infected with Southwestern dwarf mistletoe, a parasitic disease common throughout the Forest. Current tree densities needed for the Mexican spotted owl (MSO) cannot be sustained due to mortality induced by dwarf mistletoe. Harvesting trees now to reduce dwarf mistletoe infection will decrease tree crown densities, modify MSO habitat, and result in adverse effects to the proposed critical habitat of the MSO. The consequences of no treatment is also declining canopy closures as trees die, that after 30-60 years will result in the same impacts as reducing dwarf mistletoe now. In addition, delaying these treatments now will increase the costs (in dollars and environmental impacts) and reduce future options for maintaining desired conditions.

(2) Absence of fire in the ecosystem. Past aggressive fire suppression, limited prescribed burning, and incomplete treatment of forest litter has resulted in heavy forest fuels along the Mogollan Rim. Potentially catastrophic fire could occur in this area given the proximity to the communities of Pine and Strawberry, fuel loading, prevailing winds, topography, and heavy public recreation use.

(3) Treatment of small diameter ponderosa pine trees. Dense ponderosa pine sites are at a higher risk of catastrophic events such as fire and disease than less dense sites. Also, without natural or management thinning actions, trees on these sites will not grow into the desired mature yellow pines within a reasonable amount of time.

(4) Demand for recreation opportunities on the Mogollan Rim. The expressed need for an increased variety and amount of yearlong recreational activities is increasing faster than the ecosystem can handle. This situation is evident by the increasing number of people trying to play in the snow along Highway 87 each winter, almost continuous summer camping and

vehicle use within meadows and the more popular camping areas, and increasing firewood cutting (both legal and illegal).

(5) Decline of aspen in the ecosystem. Aspen is declining in this ecosystem for several reasons. Lack of fire is retarding aspen sprouting and increasing competition from both grasses and other tree species. Also, the large elk populations seek out young aspen shoots, thereby limiting reproduction success. Options to reverse the declining presence of aspen are limited by environmental and social concerns.

Preparing an EIS will allow us to fully evaluate the significance of the environmental effects of these resource components and issues. Scoping for comments and field trips were previously accomplished prior to this analysis becoming an EIS. However, comments on the issues and suggestions for additional issues are welcome in response to the draft environmental impact statement which will follow this Notice of Intent, shortly. The Interdisciplinary Team will reconvene to consider new comments.

The draft environmental impact statement can be expected in June 1995. A forty-five-day comment period pursuant to 36 CFR 219.10(b) will be provided for the public to make comments on the draft environmental impact statement. A record of decision will be prepared and filed with the final environmental impact statement. A forty-five-day appeal period pursuant to 36 CFR 217.8(a) will be applicable.

The forty-five day comment period on the draft environmental impact statement will begin when the Environmental Protection Agency's Notice of Availability appears in the **Federal Register**.

The Forest Service believes, at this early stage, it is important to give reviewers notice of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. To be most helpful, comments on the draft environmental impact statement should be as specific as possible and may address the adequacy of the statement or the merits of the alternatives discussed (see Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3).

In addition, Federal court decisions have established that reviewers of draft

environmental impact statements must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewer's position and contentions. *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978). Environmental objections that could have been raised at the draft stage may be waived if not raised until after completion of the final environmental impact statement. *City of Angoon v. Hodel*, (9th Circuit, 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980). The reason for this is to ensure that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in the final.

Dated: May 15, 1995.

Bruce C. Greco,

District Ranger, Long Valley Ranger District, Coconino National Forest.

[FR Doc. 95-12537 Filed 5-22-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

Committee of State Foresters

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Committee of State Foresters will meet in Flatwoods, West Virginia, on June 19-20, 1995. The meeting will begin at 1 p.m. on June 19 and end at noon on June 20. The Committee is comprised of 7 members of the Executive Committee of the National Association of State Foresters. The meeting provides an opportunity for committee members to consult with the Secretary of Agriculture regarding the administration and application of various parts of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978. The Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment will chair this meeting. The meeting is open to public attendance; however, participation is limited to Forest Service personnel and Committee members. Persons who wish to bring cooperative forestry matters to the attention of the Committee may file written statements with the Executive Secretary of the Committee before or after the meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held from June 19-20, 1995.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the conference room at the Days Inn (I-79, Exit 67), 2000 Sutton Lane, Sutton, West Virginia. Members of the public who wish to attend must register in advance with Marlene Edwards, Office

of the Deputy Chief for State and Private Forestry.

Send written comments to Joan M. Comanor, Executive Secretary, Committee of State Foresters, c/o Forest Service, USDA, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090, (202) 205-1657.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Marlene Edwards, Office of the Deputy Chief for State and Private Forestry, Forest Service, (202) 205-1657.

Dated: May 18, 1995.

Joan M. Comanor,

Deputy Chief, S&PF.

[FR Doc. 95-12578 Filed 5-22-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

Western Washington Cascades Provincial Interagency Executive Committee (PIEC) Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Meeting.

SUMMARY: The Western Washington Cascades PIEC Advisory Committee will meet on June 14, 1995 at the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Headquarters, 21905 64th Avenue West, in Mountlake Terrace, Washington. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. and continue until 4:30 p.m. Agenda items to be covered include: (1) Discussion of federal and state watershed analysis processes; (2) discussion of agency criteria for setting watershed analysis priorities in fiscal year 1996; (3) discuss tribal activities and processes related to federal and state watershed analysis; (4) discussion of fiscal year 1995 watershed analysis opportunities; (5) other topics as appropriate; and (6) open public forum. An informational workshop on the federal watershed analysis process will precede the June 14th meeting. The workshop will be held on June 13, 1995, at Edmonds Community College, Room 202, Mountlake Terrace Hall, 20000 68th Avenue West, Lynnwood, Washington. The workshop will commence at 1:00 p.m. and continue until 4:00 p.m. that day. All Western Washington Cascades Province Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public. Interested citizens are encouraged to attend.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Direct questions regarding this meeting to Bob Dunblazier, Province Liaison, USDA, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, 21905 64th Avenue West, Mountlake Terrace, Washington 98043, 206-744-3270.

Dated: May 17, 1995.

Dennis E. Bschor,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 95-12543 Filed 5-22-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Wyoming Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the Wyoming Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 10:00 a.m. and adjourn at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 17, 1995, at the Little America, 2800 W. Lincolnway, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003. The purpose of the meeting is to brief Committee members on Commission and regional activities, discuss current civil rights issues in the State, and approve plans for future activities.

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation to the Committee, should contact Committee Chairperson Oralia G. Mercado, 307-472-2105 or Ki-Taek Chun, Acting Director of the Rocky Mountain Regional Office, 303-866-1040 (TDD 303-866-1049). Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Regional Office at least five (5) working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated at Washington, DC, May 16, 1995.

Carol-Lee Hurley,

Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit.

[FR Doc. 95-12557 Filed 5-22-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Export Administration

Regulations and Procedures Technical Advisory Committee; Notice of Meeting Change

Federal Register citation of previous announcement: p. 21792, May 3, 1995.

Previously announced time of meeting: 9:00 a.m., May 23, 1995. New time of meeting: 9:00 a.m., June 15, 1995, Room 3884.